

# The CRANKHANDLE

DECEMBER  
2019

Newsletter of the Southern Peninsula Classic and Historic Car Club Inc. A00011676Y  
Print Post Publication PP100002657  
The Crankhandle is sponsored by the Bendigo Bank

Postal Address: S.P.C. & H.C.C. Inc., P.O. BOX 12, DROMANA, VIC., 3936  
Website: [www.crankhandle.com.au](http://www.crankhandle.com.au) Email: [admin@crankhandle.com.au](mailto:admin@crankhandle.com.au)

*The aim of the Club is to cater for people who have an interest in restoring, touring and displaying all types of Veteran, Vintage and Classic cars, motorcycles, trucks and stationary engines, etc. or any piece of machinery of historical interest.*

*The views and/or opinions expressed in CRANKHANDLE are not necessarily those held by the Committee of the SPC&HCC.*



**Graeme's fully restored original BMC 1967 Austin Mini Cooper S Works World Rally car**

## *What's inside*

Page 3 Presidential Jottings  
Page 4 Coming Events  
Page 5 Visit to Stewart Webster's Man Cave  
Page 6&7 Caught in the Headlights  
Page 8 Painted Silos Run report  
Page 9 Rosebud Retirement Village Display

Page 10 "A Rare Advertising Piece"  
Page 11 "A Cheap Read"  
Page 12 Meeting Minutes & "Memories"  
Page 13 CPS Reminder  
Page 14 Buy, Swap or Sell

Your **Community Bank**®

 **Bendigo Bank**  
Rye Dromana Rosebud

**The deadline for articles and advertisements in the next edition of The Crankhandle is 15<sup>th</sup> of the Month. Items received after then may be held over till the next edition.**

**Please email copy or information to:**  
**[crankeyeditor@gmail.com](mailto:crankeyeditor@gmail.com)**

“NO ONE KNOWS YOUR  
PASSION LIKE SHANNONS.”



The passion, the pride of ownership, the sheer emotional attachment – no one understands it better than Shannons. So when it comes to insurance for your special car, daily drive, bike or even your home, there's only one person you should talk to – a fellow enthusiast at Shannons. And remember, you can pay your premium by the month at no extra cost.

So call Shannons for a    quote on 13 46 46.



SHARE THE PASSION

**INSURANCE FOR MOTORING ENTHUSIASTS | CALL 13 46 46 FOR A QUOTE | SHANNONS.COM.AU**

Shannons Pty Limited ABN 91 099 692 636 is an authorised representative of AAJ Limited ABN 48 005 297 807, the product issuer. Read the Product Disclosure Statement before buying this insurance. Contact us for a copy.



**FACTORY 7, 9 NEWINGTON AVE ROSEBUD 3939**

- GENERAL REPAIRS AND SERVICING
- RWC INSPECTIONS AND REPAIRS
- TYRES SUPPLIED FITTED AND BALANCED
- LOGBOOK SERVICE
- RED PLATE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

**Contact: Liam Fenney**

**5986 5454 / 0407 290 434**

**liam@hutchinsonautomotive.com.au**



### CLUB MEETINGS

General meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Dromana Community Hall, cnr of Hodgkinson St and Verdon St, Dromana at 7.30 pm. Melway Ref 159 G7

**From Oct 1st 2016 the joining fee is \$35. The Membership fee is \$55 pa or \$40 pa with an email only magazine**

#### COMMITTEE OFFICERS

*President:*

**Geoff Bartlett** 0419 547 823

*Vice President:*

**Allan Tyler** 0409406690

*Secretary:*

**Colin Jordan** 0417 527 812

*Treasurer:*

**Paul Lucas** 0420 927 073

*Membership Officer:*

**Anne Kruger** 0417 830 755

*Club Permit Officer:*

**David Doubtfire** 0409 603 749

*Editor*

**Keith Morrison** 0411 127 765

*Events manager:*

**John Becker** 0411 202 911

*Safety Check Officers*

**Liam Fenney** 5986 5454

**David Doubtfire** 0409 603 749

*Club Photographer*

**Anne Kruger** 0417 830 755

*Club Regalia:*

**Rob Lloyd** 0407 833 878

*AOMC Representative:*

**Ray Beagley** 0414 598 614

*Federation Representatives*

**Allan Tyler** 0409406690

**Christine Tyler** 0424096393

*Web Master:*

**David Doubtfire** 0409 603 749

#### OTHER MEMBERS

**Julie Jones** 0418 144 554

**Brian Evans** 0409 639 118

**Warwick Spinaze** 0407 016 719

#### LIFE MEMBERS

**Geoff Anderson**

**Ray Beagley**

**Greg Cripps**

**Ray Gardini**

**Tony Howard**

**Noel Meates**

**Lawrie Turner\*\***

**Don Robinson**

**John Watson**

**Max Caddy**

**Bill Glover**

**Charlie Cassar**

**Brian Niblock**

**Steve Lloyd \*\***

**Eric Evans \*\***

**Peter Bradbury \*\***

**\*\* Deceased**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS** are held at "The Library"  
Morningson Gardens, 98 Bungower Rd, Morningson.  
2nd Tuesday each month at 1:15pm  
Tel 0420 927 073 (Paul Lucas) .

### PRESIDENTIAL JOTTINGS



After what seems to have been the coldest November ever, we have become very busy with our special vehicles.

Thanks to Brian and Leonie Evans, and Allan and Christine Tyler for organising the Painted Silos Adventure, a lovely trip into the country away from the more mundane activities which absorb us at home.

There have been 2 interesting invitation events, the Targa Florio Australian Tribute where a number of members attended in their cars to witness a competitive section in closed off Marine Parade Hastings, and some had viewed the competitors' progress the day before heading between the Ferry Terminal at Sorrento and Flinders, where crews stayed overnight. Rosebud Rockfest is a significant event for the Peninsula, and the night cruising was a new feature, which was very well supported despite really cold conditions. This concept should appear again in next year's festival, and they can probably fine tune some aspects. Show and Shine on Sunday was huge, and very enjoyable. Our member Phillip Hill was noticeable for his contribution to the marshalling associated with this event.

Tomorrow (yes, I am writing this quite late, but Keith hasn't been badgering me yet) a contingent will travel to Traralgon to see an aeroplane factory of some note. In this instance Brian Florrimell had a contact within the company, and was able to arrange our visit.

On the following Thursday we will visit member Tony Bradford's Main Ridge property, and enjoy a sausage sizzle put on by our club. Just yesterday, after Cars n' Coffee, we enjoyed another look at Brian Graham's collection of Rileys in his immaculate workshop.

Coming up, we also have a special December Club Meeting on Tuesday 3rd where we also enjoy the cuisine a' la' Club Barbeque, and park our vehicles on the lawn at the meeting room. Thursday 12th December sees us celebrating our Christmas Dinner and Presentation Night at the Hastings Marina Hotel in our own private room out the back. Don't forget to yell out if night driving would put you off, and you would like a member to pick you up, and deliver you back home.

On New Year's Day we will enjoy our traditional event at the Briars. This is a BYO everything picnic.

Thanks to everybody who has helped to make this calendar year so enjoyable, and so successful for our wonderful club.

Merry Christmas to all,

Geoff Bartlett, and my better half, Helen.

# COMING EVENTS



## December

- Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> General Meeting – Christmas BBQ and Car Display 4:30pm onwards, at Clubrooms, food supplied but bring your own plates, drinks and chairs. Then a shortened meeting inside followed by a DVD and a cuppa.
- Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting
- Thur 12<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner and presentation night at Hastings Marina 6:30pm for 7pm start. Confirm and pay for this night, if you have not already done so.  
**NOTE: Anyone who would rather not drive at night, please contact a committee member (in front of Crankhandle) to organize transport.**

## January 2020

- Wed 1<sup>st</sup> New Years Day Picnic at Briars including car display 11:30am onwards BYO everything.
- Tues 7<sup>th</sup> General Meeting 7:30 at Clubrooms DVD
- Tues 14<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting at Brian and Leonie Evans 1 Sabo Place Mount Martha.
- Thur 16<sup>th</sup> Breakfast at Merricks General Wine Store, Meet at Bunnings Mornington 8am or 8:30am at venue. We need to confirm numbers for this event. In the past, this breakfast meeting has been very popular.  
 Please contact John Becker 0411 202 911 or [johnbecker@westnet.com.au](mailto:johnbecker@westnet.com.au) for bookings.
- Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Australia Day display at Rye Pier. **Picnic Lunch from 11:30am at RYE PIER. Please note: change of venue for lunch.** BYO everything

## February 2020

- Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Show & Shine BBQ (General Club Meeting) Held in front of Club Rooms in Dromana 5pm onwards. Bring you own tables, chairs, drinks, plates, salads etc.  
 Convenor: Brian Evans 0409 639 118
- Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting
- Thurs. 20<sup>th</sup> CAR DISPLAY AT OPAL BY THE BAY-----Aged care home 185 Racecourse Rd Mt Martha cnr of Bentons Rd. Mel.145 J7  
 9.45am to 12.00 Noon  
 16 cars only. Sausage sizzle from 10.30am – morning tea/coffee  
 Best vehicle award as voted by the residents  
 Convenor: Mick Daddo 0419 879 004
- Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Rotary Saturday Market – car display  
 The park at the rear of the information centre at Dromana over the road from the Club rooms. Car display from 10am to 1pm.  
 Convenor: David Buchanan 0490 074 532
- Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Peter Bradbury Mystery Tour - meet at Bunnings Mornington carpark 9:45 for 10am start. Finishing at a Restaurant/café.

## March 2020

- Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> General Meeting Guest Speaker Derek Pickard (electric cars)
- Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting

## ***Past Event—Visit to Stewart Webster's "Man Cave"***

On entering the property, we were greeted with a gleaming 911 Porsche parked at the gate way, so as to let us in through the security – which is extensive.

When entering the building, my first thought was "Oh my gosh, how do we fit between all these sensational cars, crowded in on the floor also overhead on hoists" etc, but we certainly did fit in. There are all types of Porsches 356's, 911's, 928's, 968, racing cars and rally cars etc. All in superb condition.

Then a 1960s Shelby 500 Mustang, Pagoda Roof Mercedes Sports and you can go on and on.

Stewart then proceeded to tell us the story of each car, which was just fabulous. Then we were invited upstairs to the mezzanine floor which gives you a totally different perspective of a "Man Cave".

There was the most extraordinary model train set-up, with several train tracks going through tunnels around mountains, and railway crossings and of course stations, ending up with train sheds. There is a church there but there is also a wedding happening at the church, with a horse-drawn white carriage and wedding guests. When you looked up into the alps, there is a hunter in a red jacket who had just shot deer. There are street lights and lighting everywhere and the detail is just incredible.

When you are able to pull yourself away from all that, there are model planes, an enormous 4 engine bomber and a spitfire hanging from the ceiling amongst other items. On the walls and around the room, are all sorts of trophies including a fishing trophy, model yachts and ships all hand built, model cars, oars, skis, paintings and memorabilia – just too much to mention them all.

Then there is the model racing car circuit that is beside the huge model train lay out, with villages, tunnels and bridges just like the model train set up, with exotic sports cars to top it off.

This "man cave" just takes you to another world and you can see why Stewart is so proud of this magnificent display and I feel we were very privileged to be able to share it.

For me, this goes with the visit to Max and Bobs in Bendigo and the visit to the Elfin Heritage Centre and Nigel Tait's Repco Brabham display and they are times we will never forget. To the 35 participants from our club, I do hope you enjoyed it as much as I enjoyed my visit there.

John Becker.







## *Caught in the Headlights*

### *The Octogenarians*

#### **Graeme Urch - without doubt "The Mini Man."**

On a sunny morning the Octos called on Club Member Graeme Urch to talk with all things Minis. Housed in a very nice garage overlooking a pleasant wooded area sat the Tartan red bodied with Old English white top, a quite magnificent genuine Group 2 fully fitted 1967 Austin Mini Works Cooper S Rally Car built by BMC Competitions Department. The genuine article. It has its aggressive big four driving lamps in front and every movable body part has its original additional rally holding straps, that includes a little chain affixed to the petrol cap.



Graeme started life in Ballarat before moving to Melbourne as a young man to start work as an Insurance Assessor before establishing his own spare parts business in the Centre of the automotive and motorbike world in Elizabeth Street Melbourne. He established what became a highly respected spare parts business combined with an automotive workshop employing 14 people.

As a young man he competed on the Ballarat airstrip, hay bales and barbed wire fencing and always in a mini. When the local BMC franchise owner decided he wanted to sell his mini Graeme was first in line, because there was something very special about this car. The dealer had purchased the mini following its rally debut in Australia when BMC sent it out to Australia to compete in the Great Southern Rally as a works car. Graeme then raced it for the next eight years until deciding that the car was very special indeed and had to be preserved.

He spent the next thirteen years meticulously researching its history before bringing it back to its original factory specifications. Full roll cage, Works rally dashboard, fully balanced motor, suspension amended

and with modifications that only came with a Works car. This is no ordinary Mini. It left the BMC Competition factory with all the care and attention to build quality that BMC Competition lavished upon their racing teams. It had an oil cooler and fresh air heater, besides having a full Works engine of 1293 cc's with two H4 carbys complete with trumpets, tuned extractors, special high compression head and camshaft and close ratio gearbox and 4.2:1 differential with Spicer universal joints. A host of dashboard gauges were fitted, duel electric fuel pumps full seat harness, Halga Rally meters map lights and quick lift jacking points. Not to mention a "super" strong sump guard, Special Rally seats were fitted

In its first outing it was allocated to one of England's top rally team drivers, Rauno Aaltonen (Finland) and with Henry Liddon (UK) as navigator. The first Rally was the 1967 Acropolis Rally where they struck high temperatures and 56 hours of rough roads. They collided with a local vehicle and ended in hospital. Following the accident in the Greek Rally the car was rebodied with a new Rally body and was fitted out with all the specialist equipment from the old car. Their second rally ended not much better, when in a winning position they were refused entry to Hungry because of Rauno having either an incorrect visa or none at all. .

BMC took their competition business very seriously every time a BMC Rally team ventured to the starting line. Graeme mentioned that each Works car was allocated 80 tyres, to cope with any conditions, snow, heat, gravel, etc. and a large contingent of people accompanied each car.

Evan Green, head of BMC Australia Competition Division purchased two of the Works cars and arranged for the Team to compete in Australia that saw Works driver, the very famous Paddy Hopkirk, at the wheel competing in the Southern Cross Rally. The Rally was a big deal in Australia with the full Competitions Department's weight behind them but they had gear box failure in the first outing. The Works mini won the Total 500 Rally a few weeks later in shocking conditions. The car stayed in Australia and competed in a considerable number of events, with the irrepressible Evan Green, at the wheel and George Shepherd as navigator. The combination won many events including the National and State Championships in '67 and '68, handing over to Colin Bond to win the 1968 KLG 300 Rally. The car was a sensation. A ban on Rallies on public roads in

NSW saw the car sold into the hands of the Ballarat BMC dealer Merv Collins and from there into Graeme's hands in 1971 where he used it in competition for the next eight years as well as being his daily drive.

The car is a credit to Graeme's extraordinary ability as a restorer and his investigative skills to be able to produce a car that is exactly as it rolled off the BMC Competition division so long ago. It required tremendous patience and tenacity. The car is not one of those over restored vehicles, it still retains the bumps and dents on the underside that it received in a very hard life and is a tribute to a man determined to be satisfied with the result.

Graeme had an enormous number of cars passing thru his workshops that he had fun with and two XU1 Toranas stick in his mind ... one a purple coloured car and the other a "tandy apple green" as described by the GMH Marketing Division. Underneath that quiet exterior must lurk a demon wanting to get out and hit the road.


Graeme only recently joined our Club. There is plenty to get to know about this interesting, quiet unassuming person who has clearly made a success of both his personal and business life in his BMC/Leyland parts and service and his love of all things Mini.

The Octos came away from a very pleasant morning having learnt a lot about these beautiful little cars with such a history worldwide in racing and rallying and here we were standing alongside one of the legendary original Works factory rally cars CRX828E driven by some of the words best rally drivers to amazing success. Quite an awesome feeling for the Octos to listen to the passionate Graeme speaking about his rare car.

We are delighted Graeme has joined our Club, a man who has raced mini's for more than 15 years after trailing around tracks behind the legendary Peter Manton in his extraordinary quick mini. Make sure you get to know him. There are a lot of stories that we have not got the space to write about and a world of knowledge about minis to interest members.

Welcome to our Club Graeme.





*for a full range of auto paints  
and finishes, sanding, polishing  
and spray painting equipment*

*10% discount on presentation of this advert.*

**29-31 Yuilles Road, Mornington, 3931**  
**Phone: (03)5976 3881 Fax: (03)5976 3882**

# \$150

## TAX RETURNS

- ✓ FAST TURN AROUND
- ✓ FEE FROM FUND AVAILABLE
- ✓ EVENING & WEEKEND APPT AVAILABLE
- ✓ ESTABLISHED IN MORNINGTON SINCE 1997
- ✓ REGISTERED TAX AGENTS
- ✓ GOOD OLD FASHIONED SERVICE



Factory 1/34 Watt Road, Mornington  
Ph: (03) 5975 3908

Note: \$150 Tax return is for standard, individual tax return only



## ***Past Event—OCTOBER 2019 "PAINTED SILO ADVENTURE"***

10 Club / classic cars and 1 caravan headed off the Peninsula on a pleasant day to meet up on the Western Hwy for the start of our 4-day adventure to view the Painted Silos in the western Districts. There was a buzz of excitement as we all joined up and made our way to Beaufort for lunch. It was then onto Stawell and our first night stop over. Dinner was taken at the "Gift Hotel" and then off to bed for the big day of Silo spotting.

Off the next morning with our first stop at Rupanyup and the sighting of the Silos alongside the disused railway line and station. The next stop was only 5 minutes away at the "Woods Farming & Heritage" museum where morning tea was taken and an interesting talk was given on the local crops in the area. After approximately 1 & ½ hours we set off to Sheep Hills Silos for more photos and then onto Warracknabeal to book into our motel and have a bite to eat for lunch. From there we had a run up to Lascelles to view the 2 silos alongside the railway. By this time the north wind had made an impact on the temperature, which was hovering around the 34° C mark and quite dusty, so we moved off back toward Warracknabeal to stop in at the Roseberry and Brim Silos before hitting the motel and a cool drink. Dinner was at the "Creek Side Hotel" where we sat outside and enjoyed a great meal and good company.

The next day we set off to Donald to have morning tea and biscuits at the well-known "Kookas Country Cookies" manufacturing facility. Although we were not able to view the manufacturing process, Kerry the Manager, gave us a very informative talk on how the company started and their plans for the future. After buying up big we then set off to Wedderburn for lunch and a tour through the "Coach House Gallery & Museum" which was like stepping back some 60+ years, the mind was recalling old child hood memories of broken biscuits and other goodies. From there it was a relatively short run into Bendigo to our overnight accommodation. The weather was still hot 35° C and dusty, but the rooms were great and the pool was cool, just ask the active ones!

Dinner was taken at the "Foundry Hotel" across the road, after which we adjourned back to the motel where we were given the use of the breakfast room to enjoy a game of Trivial Pursuit, to much laughter and heckling amongst the competitors. After a series of play off questions, it was declared a draw between Colin Jordan and Colin Pitcher, well done guys.

The next morning, we arose to the sound of rain which persisted all of the way home to the Peninsula, and a quick check around everybody arrived home safe and sound at their own pace. I would like to thank all the members who participated and made the event most memorable, and in particular Allan, Christine and Leonie who helped conceive and plan this event.

Brian Evans



***All at the SPC&HCC wish to thank the Bendigo Bank for their ongoing financial support in the production of The Crankhandle***



## PAST EVENT—VISIT TO ROSEBUD RETIREMENT VILLAGE

Well, the weather this year was great, certainly compared to last year. We had a great turnout of cars and the scones, jam and cream morning tea was just sensational! followed by sausages and onion in bread for lunch, and we were very well looked after.

The camaraderie during the morning was most enjoyable. We had a prize for Peoples Choice that was won by that cute yellow Morrie convertible of Helen Couch, a runaway win! Members Choice prize was won by Bruce Rogers in his superb Austin 7 meteor, one of the type that won the first Australian Grand Prix in 1928 at Philip Island. Bruce also won by a huge margin (without having to bribe the members!!). The Managers Choice prize was won by Greg Collins in that magnificent GT40 - you can tell by the photo of Deb Riedel sitting in the car, where her vote was going.

A big Thank you to Autobarn Mornington for donating the prizes to all 3 winners. A great day was had by all and to the club members, your attendance was greatly appreciated.

John Becker.



***We wish all of our members and their families who have not been enjoying the best of health lately, a speedy recovery and return to good health. Members are not named for privacy reasons and also we do not want to cause offence by failing to mention someone by name.***

## ***A Rare Advertising Piece— Terry Opie***

Visiting a Car Swap Meet recently, I was looking for that something? that would fit in with my small collection of car related items. i.e. car insurance badges, car event badges, model scale cars, grease guns and advertising vehicle related playing cards. I had walked around the meet and nothing had caught my eye. Now, being a (compulsive) collector, I had the urge driving me, I just had to find something of interest to buy and take home. But, what, I hadn't seen anything at all. So I decided to turn around and back track and walk the route where I had already been.

On a table I had briefly looked at before, were a number of tyre company advertising ash trays. When smoking was acceptable and in fact promoted highly, tyre companies such as Dunlop, BF Goodrich and Good Year used small replicas of their tyres to advertise their products. The tyres were about 5 inches in diameter and bore their brand name around the side wall of the tyre. In the centre of the tyre, a glass dish is fitted to receive the ash from cigarettes. Formed on the side of the glass dish are grooves to rest cigarettes on, when not being smoked.

About twenty years ago, these advertising pieces were highly collected, but with smoking not being politically correct anymore, all smoking related collectables have lost their popularity.

Laying under one of these tyre ash trays, I could see a section of a smaller tyre. I picked it up and didn't recognise the tyre brand? Reidrubber Tyres. It didn't look like an ash tray as the centre was brass shaped like a wheel hub, and it was a good deal smaller than any tyre ash tray I had seen before. I thought, this will do me, and asked the price. Wow, I asked was that the best he could do? The bloke said he would take \$5 off, as he had brought it over from New Zealand, and he had paid the same price he was offering to me!



Now, with all the will power I could muster, I weakened and paid the asking price.

Around the top side is embossed, "Reidrubber Tyres." On the bottom side is embossed, "Best By Test." On the brass centre hub, is impressed, 'Reidrubber Best By Test.'

The tyre is 100 mm in diameter (4 inches) X 19 mm wide (¾ inches).

### **Reidrubber Tyres New Zealand.**

General history of the REIDRUBBER factory which CLOSED DOWN back in 1983

In 1945 the Labour government advertised that licences to build tyres could be applied for. After appeals were heard in December, licences were granted to Reidrubber in Auckland, Dunlop in Upper Hutt, and Firestone in Christchurch. The Upper Hutt site was bought in September, and Dunlop New Zealand Limited was registered on July 5, 1946.

The first tyres were moulded on March 11, 1949 (the same day as Reidrubber's first, and about a year later than Firestone's). The factory was formally opened by the Prime Minister, Peter Fraser, on June 10, 1949.

There was a world-wide agreement that Dunlop would produce Goodyear tyres if there was no Goodyear plant, and vice versa; about a third of the output was intended to be Goodyear India Tyres was a Dunlop subsidiary, and the factory made these for an established distributor, Murray Roberts, as late as 1969.

There were major expansions of the buildings, starting in 1962, when automatically-loading 'Bag-o-Matic' moulding presses were introduced; not long afterwards, the factory produced its first radial tyres. The final major expansion was in 1973, when new machinery to make large numbers of radial tyres was purchased.

The first steel-belted radials were produced in the late 1970s. Reidrubber closed in 1983, and Dunlop acquired its tyre business and relatively-new tyre- and tube-moulding machinery, and moulding presses, and for a short while made Reidrubber-branded tyres.

Dunlop New Zealand was bought by Australia's Pacific Dunlop in 1984; in 1987 a joint venture was formed by Pacific Dunlop and Goodyear; South Pacific Tyres, which at the time was the world's tenth-biggest tyre company.

Goodyear bought the company outright early in 2006, and announced that the Upper Hutt plant would close in



December; and next year closed their only remaining Australian plant, at Somerton, outside Melbourne. Bridgestone/ Firestone closed the last tyre factories in Australasia in December 2009.

The original factory was intended to employ 500 staff; difficulties late in 1952 saw a low of 92. The author of this page was told that in 1977 there were 850 total; from then on, staff steadily shrank; but production rose from 5 days a week to seven, and from the original 180 000 per year to over 2 000 000.

Tubes, truck and tractor production ceased in 1987, and cross-ply car tyres in 1990.

Other brands, for export, included Remington, 1989; Bob Jane, Olympic and Sumitomo, 1993; Kwik-Fit (U.K.), 2000; a range of Dunlop Tyre Corporation brands from 1996, and Goodyear trailer tyres for the U.S.A. in 2002. Some original SP4 steel-radial pattern moulds were re-branded many times.

After production ceased, equipment was removed and exported to Goodyear and other plants during 2007; the only equipment still running by 2011 was the plant, run by a company formed by the former factory manager and buyer to grind scrap rubber from retreading plants into 'crumb'

*Footnote: David Tuckett was one of the original founders of Tyrepower, he was the Director of the VIC, SA, NT and TAS business, known internally to the Tyrepower group, owner operators, support teams and suppliers as Tyrepower Marketing Region A. Within five months he became a Director of the overall business itself. Later he became Chairman of Tyrepower Limited, embracing that role for two decades until his retirement in 2007.*

*David was much more than just an administrator, however. He and (his brother) Arthur Tuckett, established 14 Tyrepower stores and their extended family a further six, as well as setting up a wholesale and warehouse business called DART Wholesale Tyres.*

*Initially created to distribute Reid Rubber tyres, this wholesale business quietly and efficiently also took on the distribution of Pirelli, Firestone, Kumho, Wanli, Sime and BF Goodrich tyres over time.*

### **A Cheap Read Max Caddy**

I always enjoyed picking up one or two of the donated car magazines available to members on a meeting night. The cover usually gives an indication of the contents.

To my delight recently, as I flicked through the

pages, I found two featured cars of particular interest. A Chrysler Barracuda and a '37 Chevrolet Coupe. I placed the mag aside as our leaders were revving their vocal engines, ready to get the show on the road. I will read more about these cars later before I get a slap on the wrist for not paying attention.

I am a real cheapy. I like to read through the back page of the Just Cars Magazine, whilst shopping with Lorraine at Safeway. The Healy factory display of sports cars is always of interest to me. I then flick through the body of the mag and return it back onto the shelves and then rejoin Lorraine, armed with a jar of vegemite, or honey, to hand, thus covering my lack of attendance and driving the trolley for her.

I stated that I consider myself a cheapy. Whilst undertaking our shop, I also scanned the front and back pages of the Sun newspaper, but rarely bothered to purchase a copy.

Now, let's get back to the Restored Cars Magazine I found in the pile. The Chrysler Barracuda displayed on the cover became a full-blown centre-fold. I had only seen one Barracuda in all my years of motoring, and it belonged to Alan and Dianne Haycroft, who were active members of our club. However, sadly, both passed away. This featured car was, in fact, their car—cream to white in colour, fast back style, two-door, and always kept in pristine condition. Upon their passing, their car stayed on with their children.

The second magazine displayed photographs of a black 1937 Chev "Sloper", much to my delight. I owned such a car; a grey one, which was stored on blocks throughout the Second World War years. I purchased the car for around 140 quid from a mate. I then became the third owner. I drove this vehicle for around a year, prior to attaining my license. A good solid car, reasonably rare, too. The Ford "Slopers" were the favoured model of the young at the time—more expensive, too. The Chev had the advantage of the back of the rear seat being able to lay flat and be operated easily from the inside. This process enabled two extra passengers to enter the drive-in theatre with no cost. I did on this on at least two occasions. I also removed the spare wheel from the boot of my next car, a '52 Morris Minor convertible. I removed the internal shelf, mounted the spare on the boot lid, and, on one occasion, hid one friend in the boot. The Morris Minor was also innovative in that the rear seat folded forward into the cabin, only attached by a button internally. This operation was successfully undertaken in the late fifties, at the Fisherman's Bend car races.

Prior to the Chev and Morris Minor, I owned a '34 Singer which had a front bench seat, held upright by a chain on each side. The seat could be laid back which was an aid to creative courting. That is another story.

Now, all the above came from a browse through discarded car magazines. It brought back memories of my youth, my mates—some deceased—one or two girlfriends, lots of fun, mischief and even danger.

So, keep bringing along your old club magazines to our monthly meetings; reading through them is always enjoyable.

## **Minutes Summary – SPC&HCC – General Meeting – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Meeting opened.** 7.32 pm

**Visitors welcomed-** Vince Latham MGB and Alan Lowe- Singer race car

New members welcomed

**Present** – number 73 - Apologies –from 9

**Minutes of the General Meeting Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 – as printed in Crankhandle**

No business arising Moved to be accepted- John Watson Sec-Greg Cripps

Correspondence In/Out since last general meeting

**In- Magazines** Crankhandle from Gundagai , Illawarra Vintage Car Club , Dandenong Valley Historic Car Club. Invitation to Peninsula Health AGM . Shannons Auction reminder for Sydney 18<sup>th</sup> Nov & Melbourne 9<sup>th</sup> December  
A letter of resignation from Shirley and John Steele who have enjoyed their association with the club for around 30years and mother and father Christmas for 17years. They will be missed and we wish them well with their move to Healesville to be with family.

**Out-** Letter to Vic Roads re signatures for club, Letter to Bendigo Bank re signatures, Letter confirming request for extended hall hours for December and February meetings.

Moved to be accepted-Brian Niblock Sec- Ray Gardini

**Treasurers Report** – Paul Lucas presented a copy of Financials for all present, details are available to members on request.

Moved to be accepted-Brian Niblock Sec – Ray Gardini

**Membership Report** – 252 members and 2 applications 46 currently non financial 12 with CPS =18 cars ( these cars are unregistered until membership is paid )

**AOMC Report-** Ray Beagley reported changes to be made with CPS and administration but no information at this stage

**Past Events** – Successful weekend events were held on 18<sup>th</sup> @ Woodworkers, 17<sup>th</sup> Rosebud Nursing Home, and 26<sup>th</sup> at Freemasons homes Safety Beach Also a visit to Stuart Websters man cave. Max Cady gave an informative report on the Silos trip and thanked the organisers on an excellent event that was enjoyed by all that participated.

**Future Events** - Future events as reported in the Crankhandle . Brian Evans reported that he had 50 confirmations for the Christmas dinner and 120 is the limit for the venue.

### **General Business-**

Ray Beagley asked whether changes to the Constitution had been approved. President Geoff indicated that they have and the preparation for printing was well underway. Ray also asked about the updating of the club history which President Geoff also addressed. Brian Florrimell asked that details of Light Car Club luncheon on 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec be read out for anyone interested. David Buchanan raised the Dromana Rotary club would like to hold a show and shine at their regular market day on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in February

**Meeting closed- 8.30pm** in time for a most interesting and informative presentation by Allan Tyler on model ship building and history of same.



## **Memories**

One forgets so many things that happened in the past but help is at hand. Try browsing thru' 60 year old car magazines , it is remarkable what can be re learnt.

The May edition of the 1957 UK Autocar (founded in 1895), reported , together with a picture of a BOAC DC7 and 40 TR3's on the tarmac lined up beside the aircraft steps. The picture also showed 80 Americans examining their very new cars in which they were ferried to a nearby hotel for a slap up lunch. They were there to collect their new TR3's in person.. Only one had never driven car with a gear stick, most cars were soft tops , a few were the fairly rare hardtop model. Interestingly

most opted for white paintwork and wire wheels were in demand. Part of the visit included a 2 week tour of the continent, including a tour of the factory before leaving all apparently organised by the Triumph Owners Association together with the Standard Motor Company.

Unfortunately the quality of the picture is not good enough to reproduce.. Imagine these days with current airport regulations, trying to arrange 40 cars beside a recently arrived overseas aircraft together with 80 excited people milling around the tarmac.

Bill Glover.



## CLUB MERCHANDISE For Sale

POLO T SHIRT \$30  
 RUGBY TOP \$40  
 JACKET (Sleeveless) \$45  
 CAP \$15  
 BEANIE \$15  
 GRILLE BADGE (Metal) \$30  
 CAR STICKERS \$1-  
 All these items may be purchased at monthly meetings or ring Rob Lloyd on: 0407 833 878 to Arrange purchase at McCrae



## IMPORTANT NOTICES

### CLUB PERMIT SCHEME MANAGEMENT INFO

David Doubtfire is the Club Permit Officer and Brian Evans is deputy officer for emergency only.

### DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the driver of a club red plated vehicle being driven to ensure the vehicle is in a current roadworthy condition.

### CLUB PERMIT HOLDER'S RESPONSIBILITY

It is the club permit holder's responsibility to:

Remain a financial member of the club

and

Contact the club permit officer after disposal of a red plate vehicle

### CPS RENEWAL REMINDER

#### DECEMBER

A BOLT	R CHILIANIS	R CONNELL
M CROW	M GAGLIARDI	M GRIERSON
W HALL	K HALLAM	R HILL
G HOCKING	W INNES	M JAGEURS
J JONES	B JONES	P KRUEGER
B LESLIE	B MASON	V PORTEOUS
C WATKINS		

#### JANUARY

E BONE	J BEARD/SPENCE	G CLARKE
M LEONARD	C LUCAS	J MARTEN
J MASON	D ROBINSON	R ROLLINGS
J WATSON	H WEBSTER	R HOWES
D TRUEMAN		

#### FEBRUARY

G ANDERSON	G CASTLE	K BEARD
M CADDY	C CASSAR	R CHILIANIS
R CONNELL	I DAVIS	G DUNKERLY
B ROGERS	C HIGGINS	T HOWARD
P LITTLE	F LITTLE	I WILLIAMS
T MULVOGUE	G OTTAWAY	K POULTON
B SCOTT-HOWARTH	C WATKINS	A WEBSTER
G STATHOPOULOS	K SMITH	J KLEIN

#### NOTE: Permit Renewal by Mail

If sending renewal notices by mail please send them with a self addressed envelope, ONLY to the club mailbox: **PO BOX 12 DROMANA VIC. 3936**



**DARREN McGRATH**  
*Proprieter*

**MUFFLER AND EXHAUST SYSTEMS**

**TOWBARS AND SHOCKERS**

**Factory 2/5 Newington Ave  
ROSEBUD  
PH: 03 5981 2299**

# BUY, SWAP OR SELL

Members may submit notices of items they wish to *BUY, SWAP or SELL* at no charge (2 issues only).

Non Members (not commercial) shall be charged \$10.00 for seven lines, max. two issues only. Club Permit eligible vehicles only.

Commercial advertising enquiries should be addressed to: The Treasurer, S.P.C. & H.C.C., PO Box 12, Dromana, Vic., 3936. *Government regulations require that the registration, engine or chassis number of the vehicle MUST be included in all "FOR SALE" advertisements.*

**NOTIFY THE EDITOR ONCE YOUR ARTICLE HAS BEEN SOLD OR THE ADVERT. IS NO LONGER REQUIRED.**



## FOR SALE

### 1963 Austin Healey Sprite Mark II, 1100cc model

Currently on full registration AH-063

It is in great condition and fun to drive.

It comes with soft top, tonneau and fiberglass hardtop and many spares.

It will be sold with the personalized AH-063 plates and a RWC:

Offers near \$16000.

It is currently garaged at Wonthaggi but local inspection can be arranged with notice.

**Contact :James** on : 0402 135 292

**Or Keith** on : 0411 127 765



## FOR SALE

1947 Alvis Drophead TA14 for sale in Hobart, Tasmania. It is silver in colour, is in good condition and goes well. My father purchased it in October 1984 from an owner in Hobart. Previous to this our Alvis was first registered in Victoria where it remained until it came to Tasmania in 1974. It is in good condition as can be seen by the photos. The original front seats have been taken out and replaced with the ones in it currently (Dad found the originals very uncomfortable). We still have the original seats and they will be included with the sale of the car. The Alvis is registered to be driven at VCCA (Tasmania) Club events and so the roadworthy is compliant to this registration. It is a much-loved car looking for a new home. The price of \$30,000 is negotiable. Thank you.

Contact Lisa Cooper 0400516240

1947 Alvis Drophead TA14, 31000kms, 2 door convertible, 4cylinder, 1.9litre Petrol, Manual gears.  
Reg: VC0694, VIN No: CHN 22924  
Exterior silver, Interior colour: tan






**A.A. VINNEY'S**  
Metal Polishers & Electroplaters  
24 - 26 Short Street, Dandenong, 3175

Vince & Anna  
Di Blasio

Ph: (03) 9794 7530  
Fax: (03) 9794 7532



*We're The Finish That Counts*

Email: [vinneys@bigpond.com](mailto:vinneys@bigpond.com)  
Web: [www.vinneys.com.au](http://www.vinneys.com.au)

### Specialising in

- All Jobbing work
- Car and Boat Parts
- Motor Cycle Parts
- Rare Spares Stockists
- Reconditioning of all Bumper Bars
- Gold Plating
- Aluminium Plating
- Zinc Plating
- Barrel Plating
- Chrome, Nickel, Copper & Silver Plating



### ABS MORNINGTON

53 Tyabb Road, Mornington, Vic 3931  
Phone: (03) 59736855 Fax: (03) 59736344  
Email: [mornington@absauto.com.au](mailto:mornington@absauto.com.au)  
OR check the ABS website: [www.absauto.com.au](http://www.absauto.com.au)  
(Club members, 10% discount on presentation of this advertisement)

See Darren Hodgson and staff for all  
your auto service needs, from what  
makes it go .... to what makes it  
**STOP**

They'll even give you a 12 month or  
20,000 km guarantee on parts and labour

Call and talk to Darren:

Not just  
brakes!



**FASTFIT**  
CAR CARE



5975 8788  
[fastfitmornington.com.au](http://fastfitmornington.com.au)

CUSTOM CAR & 4WD EXHAUST SYSTEMS - TOW BARS

FAC 3/14 BRUCE STREET, MORNINGTON • 5975 7503

**AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS**

MECHANICAL • AUTO ELECTRICAL • TYRE SALES • BATTERIES



**VACC**  
You're in good hands



### One Stop Shop

We offer a full suite of products  
and services ensuring your  
automotive needs are taken  
care of all at the one location

**New Owner:-Mathew Reddecliffe**

**Address:** 3/14 Bruce Street ,Mornington.

**Phone** (03) 5975 7503 / 043 580 953

**Email:** [MLAUTOMOTIVEREPAIRS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MLAUTOMOTIVEREPAIRS@GMAIL.COM)

**Web:** [MLAUTOMOTIVE.COM.AU](http://MLAUTOMOTIVE.COM.AU)



# WHITE LADY FUNERALS

*a woman's understanding*

*At a time when warmth, compassion, gentleness and understanding mean so much WHITE LADY FUNERALS is there for you.*

24 hours a day, every day of the year

*Thinking of planning ahead?*

Guardian Pre-paid funeral plans available.

Call for a no obligation appointment.

**WHITE LADY FUNERALS**

Rosebud : 03 5982 3400

Mornington : 03 5975 9292



AFDA Member

## RHTRIM

RED HILL MOTOR TRIMMING

**MARINE & CAR  
UPHOLSTERY**

0433 181 891

rhtrim@outlook.com

12 Thamer St, Capel Sound

Specialising in all types of leather, vinyl  
for marine and car trimming work



**MERRY**  
*Christmas*



**Your One  
Stop Print Shop**  
1300 43 44 48

**250  
FULL COLOUR  
BUSINESS CARDS  
\$49**

[www.printdepot.com.au](http://www.printdepot.com.au)